

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Premature birth threatens the lives and health of more than one-half a million babies every year, including 1,104 babies in South Dakota, and the number is rising; and,

Whereas, Premature birth is the leading cause of death of newborns in America; and,

Whereas, Babies who survive may suffer lifelong consequences; and,

Whereas, The March of Dimes continues to lead the fight against premature birth and other serious threats to infant health by funding research and programs that help more babies come into the world healthy:

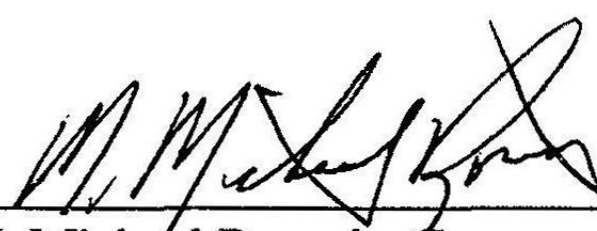
Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim November 2007 as

PREMATURITY AWARENESS MONTH

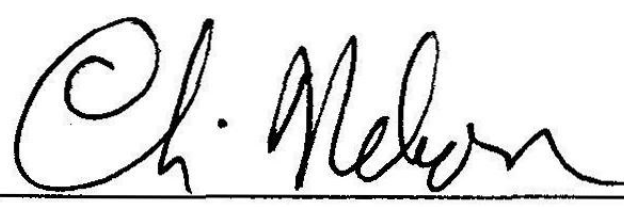
in South Dakota, and I encourage all citizens of South Dakota to support the efforts of March of Dimes to fund research and programs to help give every baby a healthy start.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fifteenth Day of October in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.




M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State